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**MAR 25 2005****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**In re application of: David C. Paul, *et al.*

Appl. No. 10/762,533

Filed: January 23, 2004

For: **SPINE STABILIZATION SYSTEM**

Atty. Docket: 0218.002.0003

Art Unit: 3732

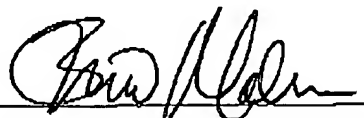
Examiner: P. Philogene

Confirmation No.: 5342

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8**

I hereby certify that the following correspondence for Application No. 10/762,533 is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at (703) 872-9306 (official fax number) on March 25, 2005.

1. Certificate of Transmission (1 page)
2. Response to Final Office Action (10 pages)

Total Pages Submitted: 11

Brian J. Malm, Reg. No. 44,895

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**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR 1.116**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the office action mailed December 28, 2004, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks for entry and consideration during the examination of the above-identified application. Applicants believe the following amendments place the claims in condition for allowance, or at least in better form for consideration on appeal, and entry at this time is respectfully requested.